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OCT 16 2006

Patent  
Serial No. 10/521,134  
Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action of September 9, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method of controlling a digital media recorder capable of recording digital media sequences on a digital media carrier, comprising the steps of:
  - extracting, from an input media sequence, a media sub-sequence,
  - calculating a sub-sequence digital fingerprint from the media sub-sequence,
  - comparing the sub-sequence fingerprint with at least one first reference fingerprint, said first reference fingerprint being fetched from a primary database of fingerprints, yielding a first comparison value,
  - depending on the first comparison value, allowing or obstructing recording of the input media sequence on the media carrier,
  - comparing the sub-sequence fingerprint with at least one second reference fingerprint, said second reference fingerprint

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being fetched from a secondary database of fingerprints, yielding a second comparison value,

- depending on the second comparison value, storing the fingerprint in the secondary database,

- depending on at least the first comparison value, updating the primary database with information from the secondary database that the digital media sequence has been recorded on the media carrier.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, where the primary database of fingerprints includes a copy count number and a copy limit number associated with fingerprints in the list, where the step of comparing the sub-sequence fingerprint with the first reference fingerprint includes comparing the copy count number and the copy limit number and where the step of updating the primary database includes updating the copy count number associated with the fingerprint.

3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of removing older entries from the primary

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database in favor of newer entries so as to limit the size of the primary database to a predetermined number.

4. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, where the updating of the primary database is dependent on whether or not the recording of the at least one media sub-sequence is completed.
5. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, where the obstruction of the recording includes at least one of the actions: aborting the recording, reducing the quality of the recording, notifying a user of the obstruction.
6. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, where the extraction of the sub-sequence includes extraction during a predetermined time interval, said time interval having a length determined at least partly by the type of the media sequence.
7. (original) A digital media recorder capable of recording digital media sequences on a digital media carrier, comprising:
  - means for comparing the sub-sequence fingerprint with at least one second reference fingerprint, said second reference

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fingerprint being fetched from a secondary database of fingerprints, yielding a second comparison value,

- means for storing the fingerprint in the secondary database

- means for extracting, from an input media sequence, a media sub-sequence,

- means for calculating a sub-sequence digital fingerprint from the media sub-sequence,

- means for comparing the sub-sequence fingerprint with at least one first reference fingerprint, said first reference fingerprint being fetched from a primary database of fingerprints, yielding a first comparison value,

- means for analyzing the first comparison value,

- means for recording the input media sequence on the media carrier,

- means for obstructing recording of the input media sequence on the media carrier depending on the first comparison value,

- means for updating the primary database with information from the secondary database that the digital media sequence has been recorded on the media carrier.

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8. (original) A recorder according to claim 7, where the primary database of fingerprints includes a copy count number and a copy limit number associated with fingerprints in the list, where the means for comparing the sub-sequence fingerprint with the first reference fingerprint includes means for comparing the copy count number and the copy limit number and where the means for updating the primary database includes means for updating the copy count number associated with the fingerprint.

9. (previously presented) A recorder according to claim 7 being arranged to remove older entries from the primary database in favor of newer entries so as to limit the size of the primary database to a predetermined number.

10. (previously presented) A recorder according to claim 7, where the means for updating the primary database are arranged to operate in dependence on means capable of establishing whether or not the recording of the at least one media sub-sequence is completed.

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11. (previously presented) A recorder according to claim 7, where the obstruction means includes obstructing means capable of at least one of the actions: aborting the recording, reducing the quality of the recording, notifying a user of the obstruction.
12. (previously presented) A recorder according to claim 7, where the means for extraction of the sub-sequence includes means for extraction during a predetermined time interval, said time interval having a length determined at least partly by the type of the media sequence.
13. (previously presented) A computer comprising a recorder according to claim 7 wherein the computer is configured to control the recorder.
14. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1 wherein the secondary database updates the primary database in response to ejecting the media carrier.

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15. (previously presented) A recorder as in claim 7 wherein the secondary database updates the primary database in response to ejecting the media carrier.

16. (previously presented) A computer as in claim 13 wherein computer is configured to update the primary database with the secondary database in response to ejecting the media carrier.